



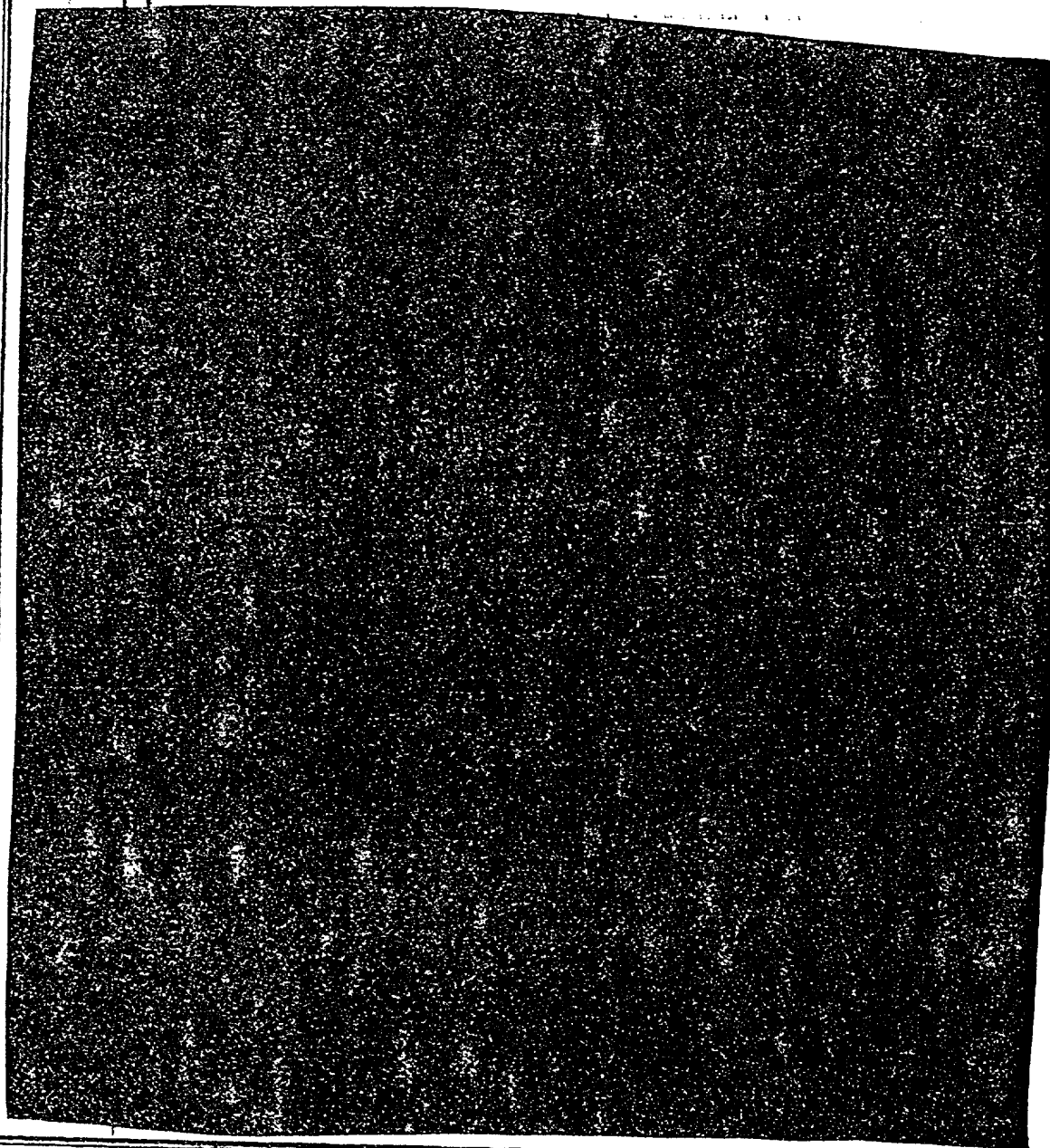
DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

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SPOT COMMENTARY

15 February 1991
0600 EST

IRAQ-KUWAIT: SITUATION REPORT #571



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DATE 1 OCT 1997

5

Pages: 2

Exemptions: (b)(1) (b)(2)

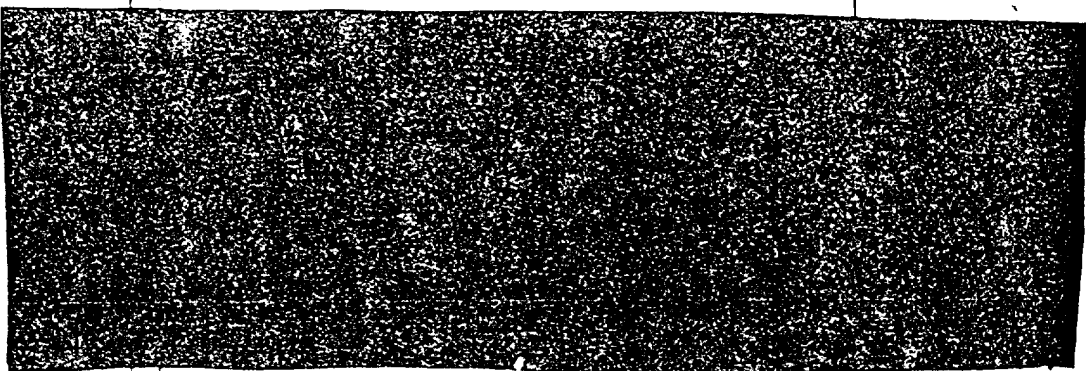
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Political Developments

European Reactions to Bombing of Baghdad Bunker

European media is covering heavily Wednesday's bombing of the Baghdad bunker.

- o French Prime Minister Rocard told a news conference yesterday that civilian deaths in Baghdad were "tragic" but that only Saddam Hussein was responsible for the deaths.
- o A senior Italian official called on the coalition forces Thursday to stop bombing urban centers, according to press reports. Other Italian officials condemned Saddam Hussein's deliberate policy of placing civilians at important military sites.
- o Spain yesterday expressed concern and regret over the bombing and suggested a UN investigation to clarify the facts. According to press reports, Madrid urged that coalition air attacks over Iraqi cities be halted and concentrated instead in operations around Kuwait.



UN Security Council Speeches on Gulf Crisis

The Security Council met in a private session on the Persian Gulf crisis for four hours late yesterday and heard statements from 12 countries. Kuwait led off with a forceful speech that blended persuasive logic with credible emotion, according to the US Mission to the UN. The Iraqi representative made no mention of Kuwait and charged the US with plotting to destroy Iraq. The Chinese delegate restated Beijing's opposition to Iraq's invasion

~~TOP SECRET~~

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of Kuwait but criticized the coalition's use of force as less effective than diplomatic steps. According to US officials, Soviet Ambassador Vorontsov made a brief but powerful statement which concluded with a question for Baghdad: When will the Iraqi leadership announce its complete and unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait? Debate will resume this morning at 10:30.

4
~~TOP SECRET~~

Pages: 5

Exemptions: (b)(1) (b)(2)